



Istituto Figlie di Maria Ausiliatrice

Salesiane di Don Bosco

**Sacred Heart of Jesus Province - INK
Bangalore - India**



PROVINCIAL CIRCULAR
SACRED HEART CONVENT, BANGALORE 49

XXIX / 2

August 2021

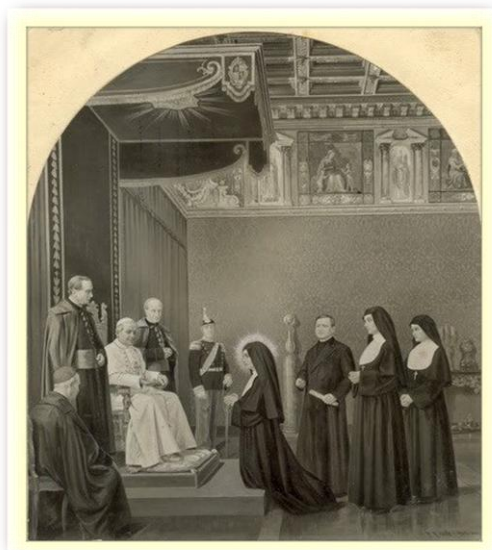
My dearest Sisters, affectionate Greetings from the Provincial House Bangalore!

Entering into the month of August, we experience special sentiments of serene joy and a feeling of gratitude as we celebrate the foundation day of the Institute on 5th August. On this wonderful day every FMA celebrates the birthday of the Congregation with sincere joy, contentment and thankfulness to God, and our Holy Founders.

On her part, Mother Mazzarello also inspired our first Sisters, and is still an inspiration to us today, encouraging us to love Our Lady. Two specific memories that we hold dear are Mother Mazzarello's reference to herself as the Vicar to Our Lady, and her habit of calling Mary Help of Christians the true superior of our community. The second is her simple but very meaningful act of placing the keys of the house at the feet of Our Lady every night, asking Mary's continued protection on the house and each of the Sisters.

I extend our prayers and warmest congratulations especially of ING and INS who will be making their first and final profession on the 5th August. A good number of us have made our profession on this beautiful day of the Foundation of our Institute. Hearty

Congratulations to all the Golden and Silver Jubilarians of our province and those of FMA-India. This year we have 10 Golden Jubilarians and 3 Silver Jubilarians.



ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY & INDEPENDENCE DAY OF INDIA

“The Church invites us to contemplate” the mystery of the Blessed Virgin Mary's bodily Assumption into heaven. Mary's greatness lies in the fact that she was humble before God and surrendered herself to God.

Her words to the angel at the annunciation are words that we need to meditate on a great deal, 'Let it be done to me according to your word. On this solemnity of our blessed Mother Mary, Queen of India, let us pray that our Country may be freed from all shackles that bind her from real freedom.

As Our Nation celebrates its 75th Independence Day to commemorate the birth of a free and democratic nation, it is once again an opportune moment to reflect on what remains of the legacy of the anti-colonial struggle that led to India's deliverance from colonial rule. The country might seem to have weightier subjects on its mind: the corona virus continues to cut a blazing trail through much of the country, and whatever actions the state has taken to stem the transmission of the disease have evidently been woefully inadequate. Tens of millions of people have been thrown into the ranks of the unemployed.

This is a day of joy and happiness for all Indians, irrespective of where they reside in any part of the world. It is also a day on which we remember our valiant soldiers and security forces, thank them for their bravery and commitment, and hope that they will continue to be alert in the service of the nation. Mahatma Gandhi had also dreamt of the same independence when he launched the Dandi March years ago. Through that struggle, he shook the foundations of the greatest and most powerful empire the world had ever seen. Today, we need once again remember the sacrifice and commitment of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi and also his dreams for an independent nation. We also need to reflect on how far we have been successful in fulfilling his dreams. What was the dream Gandhiji had of an independent India? He had said: "I will work for an India where the poorest of the poor feel that this country and this nation belongs to them and that they have a major role in its construction. An India where there is no higher class or lower class among all people. An India where all communities live in friendship and harmony. An India where women have the same rights as men." He had also said: "The Swaraj I dream of is a Swaraj of poor people. I have not the slightest hesitation in saying that Swaraj cannot be complete till the poorest have a guarantee of being provided with the basic necessities of life." His famous best known quote hark back us once again "**The world has enough for everyone's needs but not everyone's greed**".

Let us pray and work as one nation, strengthened by our plurality, to work shoulder to shoulder and build a new India. An India where there are no barriers between the government and the people. An India where each and every Indian can stand proudly and proclaim that he is an Indian. Let us work together to build such a nation as we are facing many challenges against minorities, Christian churches and institutions.



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| 02 | BL AUGUSTUS CZARTORYSKI SDB |
| 04 | ST. JOHN M. VIANNEY |
| 05 | FOUNDATION DAY & OUR LADY OF SNOWS |
| 06 | TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD |
| 15 | MARY'S ASSUMPTION & INDEPENDENCE DAY OF INDIA |
| 16 | BIRTHDAY OF JOHNNY BOSCO |
| 22 | QUEENSHIP OF MARY |
| 24 | ST BARTHOLOMEW |
| 25 | BL. MARIA TRONCATI |
| 26 | BL. ZEPHYRINO NAMUNCURA |
| 29 | BEHEADING OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST |



FMA INDIA FORMATORS MEET

FMA India Formators' Meet through zoom will be conducted on 09 August 2021 from 5.30 to 7.00p.m. during which the 'Annexure – inculturating the guidelines for the formation period of temporary vows' will be presented in the presence of Sr. Reboso Maria Nieves, the General councillor for Formation, Rome. There will be also the input session by her on the theme "The mandate - I entrust them to you - for the formators today" The participants: Provincial, Formation coordinators of the Province, the animators of communities who have juniors.

MEETING OF NOVICE MISTRESS & NOVICES

Sr. Maria Nieves Reboso, the General Counsellor for formation and Sr. Leslye Sandigo Coordinator of Project Mornese have arranged an Online meeting for all the Novice Mistresses & Novices on the occasion of the celebration of the 150th anniversary of the foundation of the Institute on 31 August (for English Speaking Group). This is an opportunity to offer the novices a space for reflection to discover the beauty of the simplicity of Mother Mazzarello's heart in the daily life of the first community of Mornese

and Listening to the profound wisdom of Mother Mazzarello's words to the novices (MM's letter to the novices: Laura Rodriguez - 18; Sr. Ottavia Bussolino - 45; Sr. Rita Barilatti - 60; Sr. Mercedes Stabler - 62; & Sr. Lorenzina Natale - 67) .

TRIMONTHLY ANIMATION FOR THE PROVINCE

I thank Sr. Margaret Mathai for animating the all the sisters of the province effectively on 03 & 04 of August on the theme of Emotional maturity.

TOWARDS CENTENARY

As we are preparing for FMA India Centenary Celebrations we continue to “Journey with Mary in the Course of the Centenary (1922-2022) and Beyond”, with the objective *“Accept the mandate, I entrust them to you: Reviving the Family Spirit and Strengthening Community Communion”*. In order to deepen and live this theme *we* will have a webinar on 10th August 2021 on the above theme by Rev. Fr. V.M Thomas SDB.

GENERAL CHAPTER XXIV

The long awaited GCXXIV is at hand. It is a historical event in these pandemic times. Let us intensify our prayers and implore the living spirit to take control of the Chapter so that it may be fruitful in nourishing the lives of every FMA in the Institute and the educating communities thus giving wings to the Salesian Charism. Sr. Margaret Mathai and I will participate in the General Chapter XXIV, which will be held from 11 September to 24 October 2021. Our departure is scheduled for 28 August and will return 28 October 2021. According to the present situations and the restrictions date may be changed. Please accompany us with your prayers. In my absence Sr. Annie Thoppil will see to the ordinary running of the province.

INTENSIVE JUNIORATE

We wish an enriching and formative experience to our four junior sisters, Sr. Lourdamma Mereeta, Sr. Maria Vincent M. Padmini, Sr. Nandru Anusha, Sr. Velupula Swaroopa Rani will be leaving on the 04th August for Auxilium Provincial House, Guwahati, for their Intensive Juniorate. They will commence their intensive Juniorate on 13th August. We wish them a fruitful and enriching formative experience.

REQUEST FOR PRAYERS

- ❖ For all those who are affected by Corona Virus, natural calamities of excess rain, floods and landslides that the Lord may protect and save specially the poor people to find necessary means to continue their life.
- ❖ For the father of Sr. Nirmala Kumari Rodda who is in the hospital
- ❖ For all the elderly and ailing sisters and dear ones of the sisters

SINCERE CONDOLENCES & ASSURANCE OF PRAYERS

✚ Fr. Jose Kochamkunnel SDB and the Salesians of Chennai Province at the demise of Rev.

Fr. Antonysamy Soosairathnam (62) on 23 June, and Fr Durairaj Vincent SDB (84), the Former Provincial of INM on 31 July.

- ✚ To dear Sr. Bala Rani Gorantla, at the sudden loss of her sister in-law Mrs. Amala (30) on 05 July 2021.
- ✚ To dear Sr. Cecily Thomas at the loss of her niece Mrs. Mary Thomas (72) on 10 July 2021.
- ✚ To dear Sr. Liza Philip at the loss of her cousin brother Fr. Antony Nirappel (85) on 19 July 2021.
- ✚ To dear Sr. Elsa Devasia at the demise of her cousin brother Mr. Johny (63) on 27 July 2021.
- ✚ To dear Sr. Lisy Jose, at the passing away of her paternal uncle Mr. Simon Mechery (70) on 31 July 2021.
- ✚ To dear Biji Rajan (second year novice) at loss of her paternal grandfather Mr. Alphnose (76) on 03 August 2021.
- ✚ To dear Sr. Jyothsna Mattuppally at the loss of her paternal grandmother Mrs. Koteswaramma (90) on 05 August 2021.

May their Souls Rest in Peace!

CONCLUSION

In continuation with the past months let us continue to reflect on the theme of community life and its challenges. Every Christian is called to live in community as a member of the Church. Christ in his wisdom draws each disciple into that particular expression of community which will be the best means of his or her conversion. Our way of life in religious community is one of many expressions of the common life in the Body of Christ. We can be confident that Christ has called us into our Institute because he knows that the challenges and the gifts it offers are the very ones we need for the working out of our salvation.

The first challenge of community life is to accept whole-heartedly the authority of Christ to call whom he will. Our community is not formed by the natural attraction of like-minded people. We are given to one another by Christ and he calls us to accept one another as we are. By abiding in him we can unite in a mutual love that goes deeper than personal attraction. Mutual acceptance and love call us to value our differences of background, temperament, gifts, personality and style. Only when we recognize them as sources of vitality are we able to let go of competitiveness and jealousy.

We are also called to accept with compassion and humility the particular fragility, complexity and incompleteness of each brother. Our diversity and our brokenness mean that tensions and friction are inevitably woven into the fabric of everyday life. They are not to be regarded as signs of failure. Christ uses them for our conversion as we grow in mutual forbearance and learn to let go of the pride that drives us to control and reform our sisters on our own terms.

In St. John's gospel the community of disciples is portrayed as a **circle of Christ's friends**, abiding in him in obedience and love, and depending on the Advocate who leads them together into the truth. In this portrait we recognize an implicit critique of the tendency for communities to harden into institutions, and administrative system to replace the spontaneity of mutual service. Our faithfulness to our calling will be seen in the ways in which we fearlessly subject our life to hard questions in the light of the gospel, resist inactivity and rigidity, minister to one another generously as equals, and stay open to the fresh inspiration of the Spirit. Because community life provides so completely for all our basic needs we must rise to the challenge of making sure that our sense of personal responsibility stays strong. We are called to maintain an ethos that stimulates each of us to learn new skills by which each one of us can enrich the community.

Affectionately,

Sr. Celine Jacob

Sr. Celine Jacob
Provincial

